

Water Smart Landscape Guide

Water Smart Landscape Rebate Requirements

1. Before hiring a landscape irrigation professional or having any work done, you must contact the JCSCA to ensure your eligibility. Please call 757-259-5416 or email jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov.
2. Hire a Virginia Society of Landscape Designers (VSLD) certified Landscape Designer. You will receive a greater rebate if you hire an EPA WaterSense landscape irrigation professional partner. For a list of WaterSense partnering landscape irrigation professionals, see epa.gov/watersense.
3. Have your landscape/irrigation professional(s) prepare a detailed aerial landscape plan. If installing irrigation system components, also include irrigation on your plan. Have them complete the landscaping/irrigation work according to the JCSCA Water Smart landscape requirements in the following section.
4. After landscaping/irrigation work is completed, submit the rebate form, copy of receipt, and detailed aerial landscape and irrigation plan stamped or signed by your landscape professional and, if applicable, by your EPA WaterSense landscape irrigation professional partner.

The landscape and irrigation system must fulfill the following requirements:

A. Water-Efficient Landscaping

- No more than 30 percent, up to 5,000 square feet, of the lot's pervious areas will be allowed turf irrigation.
- All plantings must be native or water wise plants from the JCSCA Water Smart Plant List. In-ground irrigation is not permitted for plantings and other non-turf areas. Plants must be grouped by water needs. It is recommended that plantings not be irrigated at all, but drip irrigation is permitted. For a copy of the plant list, please visit our website at jamescitycountyva.gov/bewatersmart, contact 757-259-5416 or email jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov.
- Wherever possible, existing trees and vegetation must be retained. Pre-existing vegetation may not be irrigated.
- Trees located in turf areas must be mulched.
- Warm season grasses such as Zoysia and Bermuda must be used.



- **Typical household indoor water use**
- in James City County
- is 15 to 20 thousand
- gallons per quarter,
- but households that
- irrigate their lawns can
- use as much as 100
- to even 150 thousand
- gallons. If you are a
- homeowner intend-
- ing to get out of the
- third block of water
- rates, a business owner
- trying to reduce your
- water use and bills, or
- a developer aspiring
- to lower lifetime water
- use and utility bills for
- the buyer and set your
- new home above the
- rest, then this rebate is
- for you.

Water Smart landscaping

- does not mean
- gardening without
- water. It means
- gardening with the
- right combination
- of turf and plant
- varieties, tools and
- amendments,
- common sense
- approaches, and
- sophisticated design
- that make it easy for
- your landscape to
- withstand whatever
- nature throws at it,
- especially the long,
- hot, and often dry
- summers that we have
- in James City County.

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B. Irrigation Systems

- Irrigation systems must include a rain sensor at the time of installation. Rain sensors must be set at 1/4 inch according to James City County Ordinance Number 116A-36.
- The property must adhere to James City County Ordinance Number 116A-34, Regulations on Outdoor Water Use and follow the watering schedule at right.

For details, call the Outdoor Water Info Line (24 hours, 7 days a week) at 259-4152, JCSA Customer Service (M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) at 757-253-6800 or visit jamescitycountyva.gov/jcsa.

Know Your Water Day!

	Odd # Addresses	Even # Addresses
Monday	Recovery Day	
Tuesday		●
Wednesday	●	
Thursday		●
Friday	●	
Saturday		●
Sunday	●	

Further Guidance

For tips on how to make your landscape hardier and healthier such as required maintenance, weed control, testing soil pH, mulching, and groundcover, check out our Let's Be Water Smart Landscaping Guide and the Hampton Roads Water Efficiency Team Water Wise Landscaping & Watering Guide at jamescitycountyva.gov/bewatersmart.

Visit Local Native and WaterWise Gardens

What do native and drought tolerant gardens look like? Before converting your yard, visit these sites:

- Freedom Park Williamsburg Botanical Garden
- James City County Human Services Center Master Gardener Drought Tolerant Garden
- York River State Park Native Plant Garden

Benefits

Save Water. The James City Service Authority estimates that in the summer months, a typical American household can save about 41 thousand gallons a year, or a little over 10 thousand gallons per quarter if they reduce their turf irrigation to 30 percent of pervious lot area.

Save Money. The same turf irrigation removal can save a typical household almost \$50 a quarter.

Have a Healthier, Easier to Manage Lawn. Turf studies show that most lawns only need irrigation once every 4 to 8 days to stay healthy and green. Irrigating every day results in shallow roots and more weeds; irrigating less often and applying more water per irrigation results in deeper roots and healthier turf. By following our Water Smart Landscape Rebate requirements, you can have a healthier lawn and use less water. Zoyasia and Bermuda grass lawns only require a 1/2 inch of water per week.

Requirements

- Applicant and installation address must be a JCSA residential water customer. Account balance must be current.
- Landscape service, irrigation installation, and/or irrigation removal rebate request must be submitted and received within 180 days of purchase and installation.
- Landscape professional must be on a current list of Virginia Society of Landscape Designers, found at www.vslld.org. If hiring an EPA WaterSense Partner for greater rebate, landscape irrigation professional must be on a current list of EPA WaterSense Partners, as found at www.epa.gov/watersense.
- Before hiring a landscape irrigation professional or having any work done, you must contact the JCSA at 757-259-5416 or jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov.
- Landscape service, irrigation installation, and/or irrigation removal must occur prior to application for rebate.
- JCSA will refund up to \$150 if landscape rebate requirements are fulfilled with the hiring of a Virginia Society of Landscape Designers (VSLD) certified Landscape Designer, not exceeding the cost of landscape service and irrigation installation/removal.
- JCSA will refund up to \$250 if landscape rebate requirements are fulfilled with the hiring of a WaterSense partnering landscape irrigation professional, not exceeding the cost of landscape service and irrigation installation/removal.
- Limit one Water Smart Landscape Rebate per JCSA water customer.
- Applicant is solely responsible for purchase and installation arrangements and payments.
- Applicant agrees to allow JCSA inspector access to the premises in order to inspect landscape if selected for random inspection.
- To be eligible for rebate, survey and form must be completed in their entirety and enclosed with copy of receipt and detailed aerial landscape and irrigation plan certified (stamped or signed) by your landscape/irrigation professional(s).
- Rebate checks will be processed within 4-8 weeks of receipt.

Survey

- Type of property: ☐ Commercial ☐ Single-family ☐ Multi-family ☐ Other _____
- Relationship to property: ☐ Land owner ☐ Developer ☐ Other _____
- What is the main reason for following landscape requirements set by our Water Smart Landscape Rebate?
☐ To save water ☐ To save money ☐ To have a healthier, easier to manage lawn ☐ Other _____
- Do you plan on installing any other water conservation or low impact development features, such as other WaterSense or Energy Star qualified products, irrigation control technologies, green roofs, rain gardens, porous pavement, or retention ponds?
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what features? _____
- How much did this rebate influence your landscaping decision? ☐ Completely ☐ Somewhat ☐ Not at all
- Did you contact the JCSA prior to hiring a landscape irrigation professional or having any work done? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- When was landscaping and irrigation installation/removal started? _____ Completed? _____
- How much turf was in your landscape before the rebated work: In percent of landscaped area? _____ In square feet? _____
- How much turf do you now have in your landscape: In percent of landscaped area? _____ In square feet? _____
- How often do you irrigate your landscape in the Spring/Summer? ☐ Never ☐ Daily ☐ 3 times a week
☐ Once a week ☐ Twice a month ☐ Once a month
- How often do you irrigate your landscape in the Fall/Winter? ☐ Never ☐ Daily ☐ 3 times a week
☐ Once a week ☐ Twice a month ☐ Once a month
- Landscape irrigation professional: Are they certified by Virginia Society of Landscape Designers? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Are they an EPA WaterSense partnering professional? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- How did you hear about this rebate? _____

Applicant Information

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone number: _____ Email Address: _____

Installation address (if different): _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Disclaimer - I certify that the landscape and irrigation work has been purchased and installed for use at the above named address and meets the requirements of the James City Service Authority (JCSA) Water Smart Landscape Rebate Program. I understand that if I am required by my neighborhood to fulfill the actions rebated, then I am not eligible for the rebate. I also acknowledge that my home may be subject to an inspection by the JCSA or its agent to verify the information provided herein. The JCSA may deny any application that does not meet program requirements. The JCSA does not guarantee any of the benefits in the preceding guide; nor does it warranty freedom from defects, quality of workmanship, or suitability of the premises for the landscape and irrigation system installation. The applicant will hold harmless James City County, JCSA, its agents, directors, officers, and employees against all loss, damage, expense and liability arising out of or in any way connected to installation of landscape, irrigation system, or associated products. The JCSA reserves the right to change or terminate this program at any time.

Please remit completed rebate form and copy of receipt to:
High-Efficiency Washing Machine
Rebate Program
c/o JCSA
119 Tewning Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188-2639
Fax: 757-229-7421

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Rev. July 1, 2015

For more information on this and other water conservation rebates, call 757-259-5416,
Email jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov or go to our website at jamescitycountyva.gov/jcsa

